

# VIETNAM COURIER

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1968

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5th Year

For Independence and Freedom of the Fatherland,

For Socialism

## NORTH VIET NAM HAS WORSTED U.S. WAR OF DESTRUCTION:

- \* 3,243 U.S. Aircraft Downed
- \* 143 U.S. Ships and Combat Launches Sunk or Damaged
- \* Economic and Cultural Development Kept Up Despite Bombing
- \* North Viet Nam Commitments to the South

VNPA High Command November 5, 1968 Communiqué

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### NFL Representative to Paris Conference Preparatory Work Appointed

The Central Committee of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation has appointed Professor Nguyen Thi Binh, member of the Front's Central Committee, as its representative in the preparatory work for the Paris Conference on Viet Nam.

## South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation Central Committee Statement on Political Settlement of South Viet Nam Issue

FOR four years now, in an attempt to turn South Viet Nam into a neo-colony and military base of the U.S., the U.S. imperialists have been pursuing a policy of aggression, the most ruthless in history, against Vietnamese people, in flagrant violation of the principles of national unity and territorial integrity of Viet Nam which have been recognized by the 1954 Geneva Agreements.

They have installed in South Viet Nam an extremely brutal puppet regime and have been fighting hard and persistently against the aggressors and the traitors. Under the glorious banner of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation, with the wholehearted assistance of their northern compatriots and the staunch and strong sympathy and support of friendly governments and of the whole world's people, they have been winning increasingly substantial successes in their sacred war of resistance.

In an attempt to stave off

their complete collapse, the U.S. imperialists have committed a massive U.S. expeditionary force to direct aggression against South Viet Nam, resulting in destruction on the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, and have been perpetrating innumerable savage crimes against people in both zones of Viet Nam.

But no brutal forces can save the U.S. aggressors and their henchmen from ignominious failure.

Fighting with matchless heroism, the armed forces and people of North Viet Nam have, with the help of no U.S. aircraft, defeated the U.S. war of destruction and fulfilled its duty as the great rear to the great front.

Their fellow countrymen and compatriots in South Viet Nam, however, despite the escalations of the U.S. war of aggression and, since early Spring this year, have been mounting continuous and coordinated offensives and uprisings, dealing thunder blows at the U.S.-puppets right in their hideouts, recording victories of unparalleled magnitude in the fields, on the sea, on the side of the war and driving the U.S.-puppets deeper into a position of

(Continued from page 3)

### South Viet Nam

- 150 GIs Put Out of Action in Tay Ninh Province, 31 Tanks Destroyed and 3 Choppers Shot Down.
- 300 Adverse Troops Wiped Out at Ben Cat.
- 4 L.C.M. Freighters Sunk and A Military Train Overturned in Saigon Region.
- 4 Choppers Downed on November 4 and 5, Northwest of Saigon and in Pleiku.
- Many Enemy Bases in South Viet Nam Bombed.

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— Statement of the Viet Nam Alliance of National, Democratic and Peace Forces

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— Joint Communiqué of the C.C. of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation and the C.C. of Viet Nam Alliance of National, Democratic and Peace Forces.

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— Excerpts from report by Mrs. Nguyen Thi Dinh, P.L.A.F. deputy C-in-C, at All South Viet Nam Fourth Conference on Guerrilla war.

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◀ P.L.A.F. men attacking the enemy in his last strongholds in South Viet Nam cities



## SOUTH VIET NAM ALLIANCE:

# "N.F.L. HAS DECISIVE ROLE IN ANY SOUTH VIET NAM SETTLEMENT"

**T**HE Viet Nam Alliance of National, Democratic and Peace Forces issued on Nov. 3 a statement on the present development of the struggle of the South Vietnamese people.

The statement regarded the U.S. Government's decision to cease completely its bombardments on the whole territory of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam and accept the participation of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation in the coming discussions on a political settlement of the South Viet Nam issue as "another serious setback for the U.S. and the Saigon administration" and "a fresh tremendous victory for the Vietnamese people in both zones".

It went on to say that after an exchange of views with the Central Committee of the N.F.L., the Alliance's Central Committee "solemnly declares its full approval of, and strong support for, the position of the former on the political settlement of the South Viet

Nam issue and its decision to take part in the conversations in Paris as soon as any discussions of a political settlement of the South Viet Nam problem".

"Such a position and decision is entirely sound, logical and reasonable. It is fully consistent with the fundamental and imperious aspirations and demands of the South Vietnamese and with the essentials of the 1954 Geneva Agreements on Viet Nam. It also completely conforms to the objectives of the Alliance as made clear in its Political Program, namely 'independence, freedom, democracy, peace, neutrality, prosperity, thus making possible the gradual achievement of the peaceful reunification of the country'."

The Alliance "once again affirms that the South Viet Nam N.F.L. is the great and principal fighting force of the entire South Vietnamese people's national united front directed against

U.S. aggression. The front consequently plays a decisive role and must be present at any discussions of a political settlement of the South Viet Nam problem".

The statement then stressed the Alliance's determination to "stand shoulder to shoulder with the N.F.L. and unite all its policies on the battlefield as well as at the conference table" and that it was "for joint actions and discussions with the South Viet Nam N.F.L. on all steps to regain national independence, restore peace, build the country, and bring about a free and happy life for the entire people" as has been made plain in the Alliance's National Salvation Manifesto put out soon after its founding.

The statement ended with a renewal of the Alliance's support for the four points of the D.R.V.N. government on the political settlement of the Viet Nam problem and directed them to all champions of Viet Nam's cause throughout the world.

## South Viet Nam National Front For Liberation...

(Continued from page 1) waviness and decline from which it is impossible for them to recover.

Under the impact of the gallant and unceasing struggle and the victories of great comprehensive victories of the people throughout our country, and under the pressure of the insatiable demands of the world's peace and of U.S. progressives, the U.S. government has been forced to agree to put into effect an unconditional cessation of the bombardments on the whole territory of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam. This is a tremendous victory of the people of all Viet Nam over the U.S. and low-level people in the world.

— South Viet Nam has agreed to the realization of its sacred rights, namely independence, democracy, peace, neutrality, prosperity, and ultimate peaceful reunification of the country, through the political settlement of the South Viet Nam problem.

— The U.S. imperialists must put an end to its war of aggression against South Viet Nam, withdraw all U.S. military bases, and all war means from South Viet Nam, and remove all U.S. military bases from there.

— The internal affairs of the South Vietnamese people must be settled by the South Vietnamese people themselves in conformity with the political settlement of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation, without foreign interference, and based on national and democratic coalition government is to be formed and free general elections held in South Viet Nam.

— The reification of Viet Nam will be done in the two zones of Viet Nam, step by step, by peaceful means, and with the will of the entire Vietnamese people, and constitute the resounding basis for the establishment of the Viet Nam issue.

In the present context of U.S. unconditional bombing halt in all Nord Viet Nam, the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation staunch-

ly supports the position of the Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam that all the fighters of the South Viet Nam People's Liberation Armed Forces will stiffen their resolve and fight persistently to win final victory. Let us hold high the banner of victory, rush forward with the Central Committee of the South Viet Nam Alliance of National, Democratic and Peace Forces in which both the spirit of independence, sovereignty, neutrality and territorial integrity of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation agrees to a quick stipulation of concluding the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation, the United States of America and the Saigon administration. At this conference, the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation will act as spokesman of the South Vietnamese people, have justice on their side.

The present administration in Saigon is but a clique of traitors to the country and themselves. It is building up a reactionary administration of the South Vietnamese people. The Government of mass consciousness and the people's voice have recognized the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation and have been giving it considerable support and assistance. It does not represent anybody. The presence of the representatives of the Saigon administration at this conference does not involve its recognition by the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation and the people are prepared to welcome you.

The Central Committee of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation has upon all governments, all organizations, all democratic progressive forces throughout the world, including U.S. progressives, to give vigorous support to the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation and more active assistance to the South Vietnamese people's struggle against U.S. aggression and for national salvation, till its complete victory.

South Viet Nam decidedly must be won!

The Vietnamese people's struggle against U.S. aggression and for national salvation will surely triumph!

— South Viet Nam will pursue a foreign policy of peace and neutrality, no military alliance in any

despite its apparent failure, the U.S. still has not renounced its aggressive design against Viet Nam. As for our people's resistance, the U.S. has a number of difficulties which will be warmly responding to President Ho Chi Minh's appeal of November 3, 1968. "So long as a single aggressor remains in our country, we must always the struggle and wipe him away", all our com-

South Viet Nam,  
November 3, 1968

VIET NAM COURIER

## NFL AND VIET NAM ALLIANCE ISSUE JOINT COMMUNIQUE ON PRESENT STRUGGLE

**O**N November 3 and 4, 1968, a delegation of the Central Committee of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation and a delegation of the Central Committee of the Viet Nam Alliance of National, Democratic and Peace Forces held talks on problems concerning the present struggle of the South Vietnamese people and on its future.

A joint communiqué was issued at the conclusion of the meeting.

The joint communiqué recorded the identity of views of both delegations concerning the U.S. imperialists' responsibility for the political settlement of the Viet Nam problem and directed them to all champions of Viet Nam's cause throughout the world.

Both delegations exposed the U.S. imperialists' South Viet Nam administration to the Diem-Nhu brothers past rule to the present Thieu-Ky Huong regime — as "but a gang of puppets, henchmen and traitors who have sold their soul to the U.S. and invited in the American expeditionary troops to trample upon their country and massacre their compatriots. It is a tyrannical, rotten and rotten regime which represents nobody and can survive only thanks to U.S. bayonets and dollars".

The joint communiqué went on: "The two delegations recognize as entirely judicious the objective set for the current stage of their resistance to U.S. aggression, especially, in the course of their general offensives and simultaneous uprisings in the South Vietnamese people's struggle for independence, democracy, peace, neutrality, prosperity and ultimate peaceful reunification of the country.

"To attain this goal, it is necessary to achieve a great

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## Letter from Hanoi

I may cause you some surprise if I tell you that these days of November 1968 remind me of October 1945 when I was born 23 years ago.

It was in 1945. Thousands of angry peasants were marching on Vinh, the capital of a province where a popular insurrection had broken out. Suddenly an airplane, a single one, flew over at a very low altitude, kept circling for a time, then opened fire with its machine gun. People collapsed. The demonstration was broken up. I was only a young student and didn't understand much about events of the day, but the memory has since remained alive in my mind of a crowd

shaking powerless sticks at a

June 1944 came. The Anglo-American air forces were now masters of the air and ruled the roads. European cities, opening the way to the landing of infantry.

Having lived through these events, I was inclined to think that a line could be drawn between those with planes

## Paris D.R.V.N.—U.S. Talks Viet Nam Envoy: "Paris Quadripartite Conference - New Phase in Search for Viet Nam Peace"

**I**n a press conference held on Nov. 2 to make public the D.R.V.N.'s statement on the U.S. unconditional cessation of North Viet Nam bombardments, Minister of State Xuan Thuy, D.R.V.N. representative at the Paris talks declared in connection with the coming Paris quadripartite conference that it would open a new phase in the search for a peaceful solution for the Viet Nam problem. This phase, he added, will be different from

the earlier one in which the D.R.V.N. and the U.S. held official conversations to ascertain with the U.S. side the unconditional cessation of U.S. bombardments and all other acts of war against the South Viet Nam.

On the presence of the Saigon administration's representative at the coming conference, the D.R.V.N. chief negotiator said: "We have always made clear that the National Front for Liberation is a foregone conclusion."

*Mr Nguyen Thanh Le:*

## U.S. and Saigon Administrations Fully Responsible for Failure of Conference to Open on Schedule

**N** A press conference in Paris on November 6, Thus, the U.S. side has not abided by the agreement reached with the representative of the D.R.V.N. Government.

The representative of the D.R.V.N. Government suggested that in case the Saigon administration did not appear in time, the conference would begin all the same on November 6 between three parties—the D.R.V.N., the N.F.L. and the U.S.—and that the representative of the Saigon administration could join after he arrived. This, however, was not agreed to by the representative of the U.S. government.

"As indicated in our November 1st, 1968 press communiqué, the conference will be convened in Paris on November 6.

"At the November 2 press conference, the D.R.V.N. Government, after consultation with the Central Committee of the South Viet Nam National Front for Libera-

tion, has agreed with the D.R.V.N. acceptance of the 6th of November as the opening day of the said

(Continued page 8)

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"As a result, the quadripartite conference scheduled for November 6 failed to take place. The U.S. and the Saigon administration must be held fully responsible for such an occurrence."

"On November 4, Mrs. Nguyen Thi Binh, the N.F.L. and C.C. and representative of the N.F.L., arrived in Paris to attend the preparatory meeting for the said conference. At a new conference in Paris on November 5, she declared her readiness to take part in it on November 6.

"The above facts show the goodwill and reasonable attitude of the D.R.V.N. and N.F.L. sides.

"Yet, the representative of the D.R.V.N. Government was notified on November 5 by the representative of the U.S. government that as the representative of the Saigon Administration had not yet arrived in Paris, the conference could not take place on

the same day. Mrs. Nguyen Thi Binh, the N.F.L. representative, also issued a press communiqué imputing to the U.S. full responsibility for the failure to convene the Conference on November 6, as scheduled.

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## U.S. CONTINUED WAR ACTS DENOUNCED

NOVEMBER 5, the spokesman of the Foreign Ministry of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, on November 5 made public a strong protest against U.S. continuing reconnaissance flights over North Viet Nam and intensifying of the war of aggression in South Viet Nam.

The statement drew attention to the fact that

immediately after President Johnson had ordered unconditional cessation of the U.S. bombing of the whole territory of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, manned and unmanned reconnaissance flights over North Viet Nam and intensifying of the war of aggression in South Viet Nam.

The statement drew attention to the fact that

## NFL AND VIET NAM ALLIANCE...

(Continued from page 3)

national unity, and all individuals to resolutely defeat the war of aggression of the U.S. imperialists, overthrow the puppet administration, set up a broad-based democratic coalition government with the participation of representatives of all segments of the population, all nationalities, all religions, and all patriotic political parties, former personalities and individuals...

"The two delegations fully support the 4 points of the Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam and the NFL position as made clear in its November 2 Statement to the political situation."

"The delegation of the Central Committee of the Viet Nam Alliance of National, Democratic and Peace Forces fully and thoroughly supports the NFL's position on a political settlement of the South Vietnamese question and its readiness to participate in the Paris conference as announced in the November 3 statement of the Vietnamese Central Committee of the NFL."

"The delegation of the Central Committee of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation warmly welcome the delegation which supports the November 4, 1968 statement of the

Viet Nam Alliance of National, Democratic and Peace Forces concerning the new development of the South Vietnamese people's fight."

The two delegations—the joint committee—had unanimously agreed in the present situation, in a sound political settlement of the South Viet Nam problem based on the points expressed in the November 3 statement of the NFL-Central Committee.

In considering that one of the most important factors of the final victory of the fight is the strength deriving from the solidarity and determination of the people, the joint communiqué said: "The NFL and the National Front will bend all their energies to unceasingly consolidate and broaden the nationwide movement of the fight against foreign aggression over the recent period, must be present in the discussion of any problem in South Viet Nam" as has been made clear in the Alliance National Manifesto.

It declared "its full approval of the lines and policies on external affairs of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation, warmly welcomed the successes recorded by the Front and government in the struggle for national independence, sovereignty, neutrality and territorial integrity of Cambodia within the present period."

The joint communiqué then called on all South Viet Nam people and fighters, in the towns as well as in the countryside, to unite militarily as one, overcome all hardships and accept every sacrifice and march forward toward complete victory."

It urged overseas Vietnamese to "make worthy contributions to the present fight, the whole Vietnamese nation against U.S. aggression, for national salvation," and the officers and men of police and personnel of the South Viet Nam puppet administration to choose the path of righteousness and stand firmly and leave the aggressors and traitors.

An appeal was finally made to all friends of Viet Nam and Americans as well as to give vigorous support to the cause of national salvation, which is Roman Catholic. Although the church leaders do not openly support the war, I feel that in the scriptural teaching of the church, my religion was against war of any type.

Besides, I met returned Vets of Viet Nam who told me

Viet Nam. The statement stressed:

"These cynical acts prove that the U.S. stubbornly pursues its aggressive schemes against Viet Nam, manned and unmanned reconnaissance flights over North Viet Nam and intensifying of the war of aggression in South Viet Nam.

"Meanwhile, the U.S. has stepped up its air and naval bombardments in South

## Letter from Hanoi

(Continued from page 3)

But the spectacle around me was completely different from what I had seen in 1949. There was nobody sight—a single inhabitant in sight. Yet, whenever a plane passed at low altitude, there was a furious crackling of infantry weapons, the roar of the plane to enter a hasty climb. The aggressors once driven into calm population were resuming their encroachments upon the people. The tanks were cracked, as if nothing had happened."

At that time, in Quang Binh, we had neither fighters, planes, nor missiles, nor even big anti-aircraft guns. We had no aircraft, no tanks, no tanks. After the first raid, in my heart, a big change had taken place: a load had been lifted off my shoulder; that apprehension of having to fight against silver-winged gods, that fear of being killed in the U.S. forces was not to impose its rule.

The Viet Nam Alliance delegation once again reiterated its views on the "South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation," a patriotic force which has made great contributions to the movement, organization and direction of the fight against foreign aggression over the recent period. It may be present in the discussion of any problem in South Viet Nam" as has been made clear in the Alliance National Manifesto.

I have had the great pleasure of shaking hands with our M.I.G. pilots, and each time I felt the same sense of awe and admiration of the first class. Of course, our M.I.G.s have been round our skies, our cities, and above all, our guns have been keeping a close watch day and night over our cities, bridges and roads. In addition to M.I.G.s and missiles, it is the daily contact with my people that has had impressed on me that such ordinary-looking people could be jet pilots, for the image of the superman in the sky, which I had at the time of my stay in the West, had not yet disappeared. Now I see people from peasants digging irrigation channels, working in the street where I live, school-teachers, educating our children. They are very much the same.

The twilight of the winged gods has come. The era of man has opened. The people have determination to defend, an ideal to safeguard, a future to build.

Hanoi, November 1968  
NGUYEN KHAC VIEN

### A G.I.'s View

## STATES HIS REFUSAL TO GO

*I am a GI who is refusing to go to Viet Nam. The Army in January '68 became so aligned I was going to get drafted anyway, but while I was still in the states I got involved with my CO, that I would go to Viet Nam. At this time I began to become politically aware of the U.S. war against the people of Viet Nam and the U.S. was going against the Geneva agreements and that the U.S. had already stopped free elections because Ho Chi Minh would at the time get a majority of the vote.*

*In protest of the way they were treating my military ID, my personal records, and my orders to Vietnam I will not wear my military uniform anymore because of the disgrace my country has brought upon us.*

*I expect to return to my own or be arrested on my kill zone." This means that an area proclaimed by the British as a "kill zone" was wiped out of the CO, that I would go to Viet Nam. At this time I began to become politically aware of the U.S. war against the people of Viet Nam and the U.S. was going against the Geneva agreements and that the U.S. had already stopped free elections because Ho Chi Minh would at the time get a majority of the vote.*

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### PARTICIPANTS IN NFL-VIET NAM ALLIANCE TALKS

*On the side of the NFL Central Committee:*

- Lawyer Nguyen Huu Tho, President of the Presidium,
- Architect Huynh Tan Phat, Vice-President of the Presidium and Secretary General,
- Dr Phung Van Cung, Vice-President of the Presidium,
- Pharmacist Ho Thu, Assistant Secretary General,
- Ho Xuan Son, member of the Secretariat.

*On the side of the VNANDPF Central Committee:*

- Lawyer Trinh Dinh Thao, Chairman,
- Engineer Lam Van Tet, Vice-Chairman,
- Professor Duong Ky, Secretary General,
- Dr. Duong Quynh Hoa, Assistant Secretary General,
- Writer Thanh Ngan, Assistant Secretary General,
- Le Hieu Dang, student, Assistant Secretary General,
- Professor Nguyen Van Kiet, Standing member,
- Huynh Van Nghe, specialist, Standing member,
- Professor Le Van Giap, Chairman of the Saigon-Cholon-Gia Dinh Committee of the VNANDPF.



## Guerilla War—Worthy Contribution to Common Success—Makes New Leap Forward in Generalized Offensives and Uprisings

by Mrs. NGUYEN THI DINH  
PLAF Deputy C-in-C

*As reported in our last issue, at the All South Viet Nam Guerrilla War Fourth Conference held in mid-October last in the liberated zone, Mrs. Nguyen Thi Dinh, Deputy C-in-C of the PLAF, gave an important report on the situation of the people's revolutionary war in South Viet Nam and its achievements. We give below the main parts of the report.*

to concentrate his armed forces to defend at any cost vital communication lines in order to protect and cater for his last redoubts. But the guerrillas hit hard at roads and waterways, destroyed them and disrupted traffic on them and disrupted communications.

On the Long Xa canal, the armed forces and population have sunk or burned monthly between twenty and thirty ships including many of 10,000 tons and upwards. Sometimes they succeeded in denying navigation to big ships for months. In the first half of 1968, in Ben Tre alone, more than 100 enemy vessels were sunk or burnt.

The attacks on enemy ships on the Perfume River and the destruction of Trang Tien bridge and nearly all the bridges on the An Cu river have greatly favored the progress of the revolution by the PLAF. The harassment of communication lines, the control of many road sections for days running, the destruction of the Ben Luc and An Hu bridges and dozens of pontoon bridges on Highway No. 9 linking Saigon to the provinces in the Mekong delta which made it easy for the army to move from north to south to attack and threaten the enemy in Saigon, have given greater confusion among his ranks and forced him to thin out his forces in order to cope with the PLAF's onslaughts.

Fifth, the people's militia and guerrilla units which ceaselessly increase in numbers have made notable progress, and the combat efficiency of many of them rises considerably.

In most localities, the strength of people's militia and guerrillas has grown at quick tempo, from 50 to 300 per cent, and even decupled in some areas.

In the course of battles, the political, military as well as organizational standards of the guerrillas have sensibly improved. The cadres have bettered their commanding ability and could master commanding and creative combat methods. Their combat and material strength have been greatly reinforced thanks to the booty taken from the enemy and of late, to the weapons turned out by guerrilla workshops.

The increasingly important participation of women in the armed struggle and the brilliant successes they have recorded commands attention. Women folk have thus testified that they are an important fighting force in the present guerrilla war and make up 22 per cent of people's militia.

In three months, nearly 10,000 women in a district in Long An province have joined militia and guerrilla

units, thus bringing to 25 per cent the ratio of women in the district's total strength. Artillery units made up solely of women have delivered hard blows at the enemy bases. Four women units have been formed in two months south of Long An have fought 30 battles in which 300 G.I.s and puppet troops were wiped out and 15 cannons destroyed. The most brilliant exploit was achieved by a group of self-defence militia women in Hue city who in a single engagement put out of action over 100 American aggressors.

A group of women-guerrillas of Le Thi Rieng battalion has single-handedly given battle in Saigon and the destruction of Trang Tien bridge and nearly all the bridges on the An Cu river have greatly favored the progress of the revolution by the PLAF. The harassment of communication lines, the control of many road sections for days running, the destruction of the Ben Luc and An Hu bridges and dozens of pontoon bridges on Highway No. 9 linking Saigon to the provinces in the Mekong delta which made it easy for the army to move from north to south to attack and threaten the enemy in Saigon, have given greater confusion among his ranks and forced him to thin out his forces in order to cope with the PLAF's onslaughts.

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## North Viet Nam Has Worst...

(Continued from page 4)

*The Vietnamese People's Army High Command sincerely thanks the brotherly socialist countries for their tremendous valuable assistance, and progresses in the world and in the U.S.A. for their great sympathy and support to our people's fight against U.S. aggression, for national salvation.*

*The communiqué pointed out that though having sustained heavy defeats all over Viet Nam, the U.S. imperialists still are reluctant to give up their aggressive design against Viet Nam. The communiqué reiterated the determination of the Vietnamese armed forces and people to translate into deeds the following words from President Ho Chi Minh's appeal of November 3, 1968: "The sacred duty of our entire people is to stiffen our determination to fight and to win, our resolve to liberate the South, and achieve ultimate peaceful national reunification."*

*So long as a single aggressor remains on our soil, we must continue our fight and wipe him out."*



# ON THE LARGE SOUTHERN FRONT

## Military Operations

In late Oct. and early Nov., fighting continued in all parts of South Viet Nam.

Most remarkable were the P.L.A.F. attacks on the night of Oct. 20 east of Tay Ninh and a Saigon troops battalion's Ben Cat (25km north northwest of Saigon), the sinking of 4 enemy vessels on the Dong Tranh river (linking Saigon to the sea) and the blowing down of a 300-metre long steel bridge at Ben Mo, near Saigon.

Continual P.L.A.F. shelling also reported of military targets in the provincial capitals of Quang Tri, My Tho, Kontum, Vinh Long, Bien Hoa, Camau and Tay Ninh, and others positions in Northern Quang Nam, Dong Ha, Duc Mieu, and other places, causing losses among the adversaries.

### IN THE VICINITY OF SAIGON

THE P.L.A.F. operating in Tay Ninh made a surprise attack at Ba Chiem (50km northeast of Tay Ninh) on Nov. 1.

At the start, different columns of the P.L.A.F. dashed in, assisted by U.S. planes which wiped it out.

Other P.L.A.F. units chopped up the enemy formation and knocked out groups of Saigon's outer fringe.

In My Tho province, Kien Giang district, the night of Oct. 31 to Nov. 1, Liberation fighters knocked down 3 U.S. choppers North and Northwest of Saigon's outer fringe.

In Kontum, the province, Krong Kep district, the night of Oct. 31 to Nov. 1, Liberation artillerists repeatedly pounded enemy positions in the provincial capital. The target included the Central Security Forces HQ, the puppet 7th Division's logistic depot and a base camp of the US 4th Infantry Division at

Giai Phong Press Agency further reported that in October guerrillas and regional troops in the same province engaged the enemy in 30 major battles and battles, putting 600 U.S. and regional troops out of action, shooting down 4 aircraft and destroying down 3 choppers in the same area.

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In the 5 days ending Oct. 25, regional troops and guerrillas in the same area put soldiers operating in various localities of Ben Cat and Lee Ninh districts, respectively 40km northeast and 15km north of Saigon, killing or wounding 300 of them.

In a dramatic action against 2 puppet paratroop battalions held to 4 villages in Ben Cat, regional troops and regional armed forces put 100 enemy soldiers out of action.

On Nov. 6, a 300-metre bridge spanning the Saigon river had been destroyed by the P.L.A.F., leaving casualties among American and puppet guards.

In Gia Dinh and Long An (Northeast and Southeast of Saigon) between Oct. 15 and Oct. 25, regional troops and guerrillas of the districts of Cai Choi (Gia Dinh) and Due Hoa and Due Hau (Long An) put 100 of action, 350 U.S. and regional troops, including 150 G.I.s, shot down 2 helicopters and destroying 5 armoured cars.

In Bien Hoa (25km North of Saigon), the province's regional armed forces on Oct. 25 ambushed a U.S. column comprising 4 L.M.C. freighters on Dong Tranh river (25km Southeast of Saigon) sinking 3 ships. Two days earlier, Oct. 23, guerrillas using mines blew up a train loaded with troops and military goods on Route No. 1, killing a heavy load of adverse lives.

On the afternoon of Nov. 5, Liberation gunners scored direct hits at the U.S. military

Binh Duc. The shelling topped off big fires, causing damage to many warehouses and many casualties.

### IN CENTRAL TRUNG BO AND TAY NGUYEN

LIGHT and moderate fighting was reported in Quang Nam, Binh Dinh, Kontum, and Lam Dong provinces.

In the 10 days ending Oct. 25, regional troops and guerrillas in Dien Ban and Duy Xuyen districts (South of Da Nang) in Northern Quang Nam put 200 enemy troops out of action and shot down 2 aircraft.

In Binh Dinh, regional troops of Hoai Nhon district (South of Bong Son town) on Oct. 9 fought a puppet unit, killing 100 men in 3 villages, killing or wounding 160 of the raiders (one company completely destroyed). On the same day, 7 enemy aircraft were brought down and 2 M.113s destroyed.

In Kontum and Lam Dong (Western Highlands) between Oct. 26 and Nov. 2, the P.L.A.F. and regional troops wiped out many enemies, shot

down 6 helicopters (Kontum) and destroyed 5 military vehicles (Lam Dong). On Nov. 3, the P.L.A.F. in Pleiku shot down another helicopter.

A PART from these actions from Oct. 30 to Nov. 5, the P.L.A.F. mounted

violent fire attacks on enemy positions in the towns of Quang Tri, Vinh Long, Ben Tre, and Kontum, and the bases of Da Nang, Ho Chi Minh (near the 17th parallel) the airfields of Bien Ho, and True Giang near Ben Tre town and Tri Ton district capital (Gulf of Thailand). Heavy enemy losses were reported by Western agencies.



Liberation fighters ambushing enemy craft on Ham Luong river.

## Sniper's Corner

### U.S. - PUPPET REGIME OR A RING OF ROBBERS

In areas of South Viet Nam still occupied by the Americans and their puppets, theft and robbery are daily occurrences. Worse still, the very so-called "authorities" are thieves and robbers: officers and men of the "Republican Army" and American "freedom fighters." The Saigon press euphemistically refers to them as "khakidacs" and "foreigners." Whoever has a reputation for "foreigners snatching purses and robbing taxi-drivers," every reader knows for sure that the "foreigners" are none other than Thieu-Ky-Huung's American "allies."

Here is a story run by *Tin Sang* (Sports) of September 8, 1968, under the title: "Foreigner snatches purse": "On Sept. 5, Pham Thi Gan, a 25-year-old waitress in a restaurant, had just received her pay, 110,000 dongs, which she had been saving. A foreigner ordered a drink. When she brought it to him, the man clutched at her purse and ran off. "Another report in the same issue says: "At 11 p.m. on Sept. 8, Meng Ngan Kim, who lives at 258 Truong Minh Giang, was walking along Nguyen Dinh Chieu street when a Honda motorcycle carrying two khaki-clad men came up behind him. The man on the pillion clashed her bag and the motorcycle roared away..."

The paper *Tin Sang* (Forward) of August 9, 1968, reports: "At 6.30 on the afternoon

of the 4th of August, four young men stepped into a restaurant at the corner of Cong-Hoa and Tran Hung Dao streets and ordered food and drinks. The bill amounted to 200 dongs. But they just ignored it and tried to make off. The restaurant-owner shouted for help... Four were subsequently found to be military men: Huynh Van Nhieu, Nguyen Van Tinh, Nguyen Huong and Nguen Huynh Quang."

What about puppet officers? Here is a story in *Tin Sang* of September 15, 1968: "Indeed we are in a period of upheaval... Anything can happen. Even a major attached to the Presidential Palace can turn out to be a thief! Major Kinh stole a Toyota car, put on it the license plate of his own jalopy, and sat at the wheel with a perfectly straight face. It was not because he was short of money, but simply because he wanted to live it style and thought whatever he did he could get away with it. A major, and on the staff of the Presidential Palace at that! Who would dare lay a finger on him!"

The above cases are but petty larcenies compared with the robberies perpetrated by the regimes of "President," "Vice President," and "Prime Minister" downwards. The only difference

is that the press never dares to bring them to light. They are euphemistically called cases of "corruption," against which Tran Van Huong's "anti-corruption Committee" appears to be completely powerless. The Saigon paper *Quyet Tim* (Determined to Advance) of September 11 writes: "In our opinion, Premier Tran Van Huong and his administration should send the corruption dossiers straight away to court, and not worry about the names connected with them. The fact that he has preferred to send those dossiers to the President shows that he is seeking cover, knowing that

the reactions of powerful corrupt men could overthrow his Cabinet." *Cong Luu*, (Public opinion) another newspaper, remarks (August 4): "No head has been smacked so far in the anti-corruption drive, although Premier Huong's proposed policy is to crush heads, not tails. In fact only the 'tails,' i.e. small fry have been punished for petty graft, but the 'heads' are all alive and kicking."

Well, as the first casualties of a truly effective anti-corruption campaign would be the big bosses of the establishment itself, to put teeth into it would simply be suicidal, wouldn't it?

### A CHANCE IN A THOUSAND!

*UPI* reported that this year half of Saigon's yes-men had been allowed by the U.S. to make trips abroad allegedly to "de-polite" world public opinion.

On the whole, world public opinion maintains that the "Government of the Republic of Saigon" is nothing more than a delapidated plank, "a rotten corpse," a "scarecrow" for the U.S., a "pack of lazy, corrupt, debauched and even villainous rulers who lose faith in the future" and so on... Therefore, yes-men have been sent to "de-polite" these views.

*UPI* complained that these hygienic airings had proved costly for the Americans. But for Saigonese yes-men, it was the chance of a lifetime. Apart from the luxuries of

first-class hotels and dollar cash, they were free to indulge in smuggling.

For this reason, our representatives have been hotly contesting these "missions," using even abusive language to do so.

As disclosed by the paper *Cao Ong*, to clinch the dispute, the Saigon "House of Representatives" finally decided to resort to the lot. Lucky men would get the piece of cake and the devil take the hindmost.

The same paper, however, raised a question which gave cause to anxiety: With this method, it might happen that luck favoured some know-nothings and do-nothings, then how would they manage to "de-polite" public opinion?

The short-shooter